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146.1275

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : D.S. Romeo
F. MAKISHMINA et al :
Serial No.: 08/945,459 : Group: 1647
Filed: October 20, 1997 :
For: NOVEL PROTEIN...THE SAME :

600 Third Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016
March 20, 2003

RECEIVED

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AMENDMENT

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of October 22, 2002, please amend this application
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 17 (twice amended) An isolated protein consisting of the 119 amino acids
as shown in SEQ ID No: 1 free of proteins of SEQ ID No: 1, with an Ala or Met and Ala
at the N-terminus

(b) is expressed in E. coli using a plasmid containing DNA encoding amino acids
as shown in SEQ ID No: 1 with an additional Met at its N-terminus and

(c) has a cartilage and/or bone morphogenetic activity.

Cancel claims 29 to 40.